# A NEW <br> STAR ATLAS BY 

R. A. PROCTOR. B.A., F.R.A.S.
"485
FIFTH EDITION.


## A STAR ATLAS

## FOR STUDENTS AND OBSERVERS

SHOWING
6000 STARS AND 1500 DOUBLE STARS, NEBULE, \&
in twelve maps on the equidistant projection :

WITH
index maps on the stereographic projection.

BY
RICHARD A. PROCTOR,
AUTHOR OF 'THE GNOMONIC star atLas,' 'SATURN and its sYstem,' 'the sun,' 'the moon,'
'OTHER WORLDS than ours,' Etc.

FIFTH EDITION.


LONDON :
LONGMANS, GREEN, AND CO.
1886.

## Introdoction to the focrtil edition.

THREE editions of this Atlas having been sold in about the time during which I had thought it likely that the first would be disposed of, it appears more persons find the atlas useful than I had expected. I lave therefore thought it desirable to publish a cheaper edition of the work. I must point out that there has not been, in this case, the reason for cheapening which commonly holds with atlases. Twenty or thirty years after the date for which an atlas is constructed, the effects of precession throw the stars appreciably out of place, and though such precession arrows as I have drawn in these maps enable the observer to make ready correction, it is more convenient to use an atlas constructed nearer to date. But as yet the date $(1880)$ for which this atlas is constructed has not even been reached. The atlas is more nearly correct in this respect than when it was first published, and will continue to be so until the year 1890. It will not be as far from exactness (on account of precession) as the S.D.U.K. maps and Harding's Atlas now are until the year 1927.

The gnomonic maps formerly used as index-plates have been replaced by a single sheet, showing the arrangement of the northern and southern maps at one view. As an index-plate this is more convenient than the former. The gnomonic maps, which show the constellation figures (coloured), and the lines of longitude and latitude to every five degrees, form, in fact, an atlas by themselves. They can now be procured of the Publishers of the present atlas, either separately ( $2 s .6 d$. each), or with a letterpress explanation, and duplicates on a black ground ( $7 s .6 d$.). For certain purposes, and especially for the interpretation of old accounts of the constellations (when, owing to precession, these were very differently situated than at present), the gnomonic atlas is useful; but since many who use this atlas will have little oceasion for the gnomonic maps, it seemed to me their omission would be -a suitable way of reducing the cost of the present edition. The letterpress has also been considerably reduced : in other respects the contents of the atlas have been improved. Many corrections and additions have been made in this edition ; inter alia, sixty or seventy stars not marked as double or triple in the earlier editions, and for the most part not known to be so, have been marked as such, a correction for which I have to thank Mr. S. W. Burnham of Chicago. The new names, devised to reduce as far as possible the writing on the maps, have been replaced by the old names, the only remaining changes being the following:-For Ursa Major I write Ursa; for Canis Major, Canis; for Corona Borealis, Corona; for Triangulum Boreale, Triangula; for Piscis Australis, Piscis; for Vulpecula, Vulpes; for Equuleus, Equus; and for Delphinus, Delphin. All corrections have been made by myself in the original drawings, which have been photo-lithographed afresh.

The arrangement of the maps, and the methods used in projecting them, need not be specially described here. Let it simply be noted that the sphere being supposed to be divided into twelve equal spherical pentagons, two of them polar, the twelve maps here given are equidistant projections of the twelve overlapping spherical spaces enclosed by circles circumscribing these pentagons, the maximum distortion-at the border-amounts only to an extension in length of one-fourteenth part in a direction perpendicular to the radius. This is searcely appreciable.

The stars are taken from the B.A. Catalogue, and include all down to the sixth magnitude inclusive. The magnitudes of that Catalogue are followed, except in the case of stars whose light
was measured by Sir J. Herschel ; these have been shown according to his measurement. Bayer's Greek letters have been given by preference; next Flamsteed's letters; and italic and roman letters pro re natâ.

Besides the stars of the B.A.C., forming the groundwork of the atlas, it shows :-

1. All the nebulæ down to the order 'Very bright' (inclusive) in Sir J. Herschel's Catalogue, and all Messier's.
2. All binaries in Mr. Brother's Catalogue.
3. All the objects in the Bedford Catalogue.
4. All Schjellerup's red stars (293 in all).
5. All variables in a list of 136 , kindly drawn up for me by Mr. Baxendell, of Manchester.
6. All stars described as double or triple in Sir J. Herschel's Cape Observations are so marked here, as also those in Mr. Burnham's list above mentioned.
All 'objects' have been named where possible; the stars preferably (failing Greek letter or Flamsteed's number) with Piazzi's horal numbers ; nebulx preferably with Messier's numbers.

The constellations are those recommended in the Introduction to the B.A. Catalogue. The boundaries are made as simple as possible: they must be understood as meaning no more than this; that in the case of every star bearing a Greek letter or Flamsteed's number, the letter or number relates to that constellation within whose boundary the star is set. The authors of the B.A. Catalogue are responsible for so changing the boundaries that in some cases Greek letters and Flamsteed's numbers have had to be given up. I agree with them entirely, however. It seems to me that it would be absurd for astronomers to allow themselves to be hampered by constellation boundaries, or to be required to treat these as the geographer treats the boundaries of oceans and continents. Therefore, in laying down the boundaries I have paid no attention to any considerations except those italicised above. In ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, the stars dealt with by astronomers are no longer referred to constellations; and if the constellation boundaries and names were as entirely removed from celestial atlases as the constellation figures have been, very little inconvenience would follow. Means would have to be provided for identifying the few thousand stars now referred to constellations, in the same way that means have been found for identifying tens of thousands not so referred. After that had once been done, astronomy as an exact science would, in my opinion, gain greatly by the removal of the constellations; though I must admit that so far as popular astronomy is concerned, I should be sorry to see the foolish old figures removed.

RICHARD A. PROCTOR.

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ABIBREVIATIONS

DorDu $=$ Joorbis $\Sigma$ - iserum
T - Triple $\Delta$ sturioup


B? -- Siosppelish Bmary M (ren stimer) Meltivile M (mesenobriala) Merswer



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NEBULA
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MAP。
STAR MAGNITUDES.

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| (1) 10 | - second. |
| 0 100 | THIIRD. |
| - | FOURTII. |
| - | F1/T: |
|  | S/XT |

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ABBREVIATIONS

| Ror R | - Red | $\mathrm{Tr}=$ Trinary |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| VorVi | Variable | 21-21 Pazzi |
| DorD | - Double | $\Sigma \cdots$ Scruve |
| T | - Triple | $\triangle$ Duntop |
| Qa | - Praadraple | H. Serwhershed |
| Qi | - printuple | h - Serilherschet |
| 8 | Binary |  |
|  | B! Srespect | ed Binary |
|  | M /man Ster | - Multriple |
|  | $\mathrm{M} /$ men mobul | Mrssior |
|  | $10^{\text {s/ / ma moliul }}$ | H. V. 10 |

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ABBREVIATIONS
Ror Ru - Red Tr $\quad$ Trmary VorVa-Variable $\quad$ 21 - 21 Prazzi DorDu-Double $\Sigma$-Struve
T - Triple $\Delta$-Duntop
Qa - Quadruple H -SirWHFrschel
Q1 - puintuple h -Sirilfersched
B - Binary
B? - Suspected Binay
M (ma Stur -Multiple M (enanebula) - Mossier
$10^{5}$ (co a nebula) H.V. 10.


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